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Günther Bender
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Reply to Office Action of 04/05/06

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Original claims 1-12 were canceled and new claims 13-22 were substituted in the Preliminary Amendment For Divisional/Continuation Application filed December 1, 2003.

Please amend claims 13, 15, 18, and 20 as set forth in the following listing of the claims.

Claims 1-12 (canceled)

13. (currently amended) Method for producing an electrical connection between a first and a second mating contact partner, comprising: surrounding the first at least one contact partner thereof being surrounded by a plug housing, comprising a first step of leading the first and the second contact partner[s] via a contact guide of the housing to the first contact partner with latching means together to form a plug-in electrical connection in said plug housing, said leading being accomplished by a latching of the second contact to the first contact, and a following step of laser-welding the first and the second contact partners to make said connection an integral, non-detachable connection between them, wherein a laser beam of said laser welding is directed through a single opening in said plug housing to provide for the laser welding of the contact partners.

14. (previously presented) Method according to Claim 13, wherein the plug-in connection is produced by crimp or clamp connections.

15. (currently amended) Method according to claim 13, wherein one of the contact partners is inserted into [[a]] the contact guide in a region of the other of the contact partners in the plug housing.

16. (previously presented) Method
according to claim 13, wherein the plug-in connection is produced
within a component group.

17. (previously presented) Method
according to claim 13, wherein the plug-in connection is produced
and then inserted into a component group.

18. (currently amended) Method for
producing an electrical connection between a first and a second
mating contact partner, comprising: surrounding the first-at
least one contact partner thereof being surrounded by a plug
housing, the method comprising steps of: providing a single
opening in the housing for admission of a laser beam, ~~leading the~~
~~first and the second contact partner[[s]] with latching means~~
together via a contact guide of the housing to the first contact
partner to form a plug-in electrical connection in said plug
housing, said leading being accompanied by a latching of the
second contact to the first contact, and welding the first and
the second contact partners to make said connection an integral,
non-detachable connection between them, wherein the welding is
accomplished by directing a laser beam through the single opening
in said plug housing to provide for a laser welding of the
contact partners.

19. (previously presented) Method
according to Claim 18, wherein the plug-in connection is produced
by crimp or clamp connections.

20. (currently amended) Method according
to Claim 18, wherein one of the contact partners is inserted into
[[a]] the contact guide in a region of the other of the contact
partners in the plug housing.

21. (previously presented) Method
according to claim 18, wherein the plug-in connection is produced
within a component group.

22. (previously presented) Method
according to claim 18, wherein the plug-in connection is produced
and then inserted into a component group.